



February 6, 2026

“AMGA Immunizations Brief”—brought to you by the Rise to Immunize® (RIZE) campaign—delivers vaccine news and updates relevant to healthcare leaders. This brief provides concise, actionable information to help you stay informed and guide patient care in an evolving immunization landscape.

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At a Glance

- ACIP chair says the committee’s mission is “more as a safety committee” and that “efficacy will be secondary.”
- Almost half of CDC surveillance data updates halted in 2025, with vaccine data most affected.
- 28 states have rejected some or all of the CDC’s childhood vaccine recommendations.
- Flu activity rose after a three-week decline, and pediatric hospitalizations and deaths remain severe.
- Measles has been reported in 17 states this year.

Detailed Brief

ACIP chair says the committee’s mission is “more as a safety committee” and that “efficacy will be secondary.”

- Kirk Milhoan, MD, PhD, chair of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), made these comments in an [interview](#) ahead of the scheduled ACIP [meeting](#) this month (Feb. 25-27).
- Experts have expressed concern that ACIP’s role as a vaccine “watchdog,” as [recently described](#) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, could lead to the downplaying of vaccine benefits and an increase in vaccine skepticism.
- Notably, ACIP’s [charter](#) stipulates, “Committee deliberations on use of vaccines to control disease in the U.S. shall include consideration of disease epidemiology and burden of disease, vaccine safety, vaccine efficacy and effectiveness, the quality of evidence reviewed, economic analyses, and implementation issues.”

Almost half of CDC surveillance data updates halted in 2025, with vaccine data most affected.

- A new analysis published in the [Annals of Internal Medicine](#) found that almost half (46%) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) surveillance databases—which were previously updated at least monthly—stopped adding new data in 2025.
- A notable majority of the stalled databases—roughly 87%—were related to vaccine surveillance, including systems used to track data on vaccinations for Covid, flu, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

28 states have rejected some or all of the CDC's childhood vaccine recommendations.

- [28 states](#) (including D.C.) say they will not follow CDC vaccine recommendations for children, with most opting to instead follow [recommendations](#) from the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- Alaska, Arizona, and Mississippi have specifically said they will not follow new CDC guidance on hepatitis B and/or Covid vaccines.

Flu activity rose after a three-week decline, and pediatric hospitalizations and deaths remain severe.

- CDC data for the week ending Jan. 24 show flu activity [increased](#) after three consecutive weeks of decline, with positive test results rising 18% nationwide.
- 29 states are currently reporting high or very high flu activity.
- Pediatric flu outcomes remain particularly severe, with eight pediatric flu-related deaths reported in the past week.

Measles has been reported in 17 states this year.

- As of Jan. 30, the U.S. has recorded [722 measles cases](#) since Jan. 1, 2026, with transmission now reported in 17 states.

Resource Update

- Check out the newly released resource *Health Leader Toolkit: Navigating Changes to the Federal Childhood Immunization Schedule*, from the Common Health Coalition on the [AMGA Immunizations Hub](#) under "Additional Resources."

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